

## Evening Telegraph

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THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 1869.

**The Last Words of Andy.**  
CONGRESS managed to restrain Andrew Johnson in many ways, but the inalienable right of an American citizen, even if he does happen to be President, to express his opinions upon every subject they don't not take from him. "Opinions are opinions," upon every possible occasion, have emanated from Andrew ever since he has attained to "the highest office in the gift of the people." He still retained the power to write messages and addresses, in spite of the usurpations of Congress, and he has enriched our political literature with some of the choicest specimens of official blackguardism that it contains. Johnson could not shake from his feet the dust of the White House without giving a parting kick at the "unconstitutional body hanging upon the verge of the Government" that has given him so much bother during the last four years, and accordingly he has issued a farewell address to the American people which ought to be filed away in the archives of the Government beside another farewell address by the first President, if only for the sake of the contrast. Andy dies game, that must be admitted. His parting benediction develops no new ideas, but it consists in a repetition of what he has said over and over again in his speeches, vetoes, and messages, about the usurpation of Congress, the inviolability of the Constitution, the beauties of his own policy and his own devoted patriotism. The address is an open attack on Congress and a covert attack on President Grant, for whom, with a ghastly show of good-will, he "sincerely" invokes the "forbearance and co-operation of the American people in all his efforts to administer the Government within the pale of the Federal Constitution." The example of Sylla is added, however, as a terrible example of the propensity of military men to tread under foot the liberties of the people, and the nation is warned to guard with unflinching vigilance against any military usurpations. Being thus forewarned, it will of course be our own fault if Grant succeeds in making himself a despot.

The veto power, however, was Andrew Johnson's weak point, and his principal grievance against Congress is that by a two-thirds majority they were able to render this power of the Executive of no effect. That such a thing as this could be he considers as highly detrimental to the principles of constitutional liberty, and therefore "much as I venerate the Constitution," he observes, this condition of affairs shows a defect in that instrument that ought to be remedied. He therefore suggests an amendment to the Constitution providing that when a bill is returned with the Executive reasons for withholding his signature, it ought to be immediately certified to the Supreme Court for its decision. If its constitutionality should be declared by that tribunal, it should then become a law, and if the decision is otherwise, it should fall without power in Congress to rescind and make it valid. This is a peculiarly Johnsonian proposition, which will doubtless resolve all the attention it deserves.

Mr. Johnson congratulates himself that upon retiring from the "most exalted position in the gift of a free people," he has been ever unimpaired by a love of gain; that no responsibility for wars or bloodshed rests upon him; that his thoughts have been ever to ally contentions among his countrymen. In conclusion he beseeches that, "forgetting the past, let us return to the first principles of the Government, and unfurling the banner of our country, inscribe upon it, in ineffable characters 'The Constitution and the Union, one and inseparable,'" and so, wrapped in the folds of the American flag, and waving defiantly above his head the scroll of the Constitution, Exit Andrew Johnson.

**Enter Ulysses S. Grant**  
We turn over a new leaf in our national history to-day, and it is to be hoped that we are about to begin a newer and a better era in our political life. There are two things for which we ought to be devoutly thankful—for the deliverance from Andrew Johnson and the accession of Grant to the Presidency; and if we mention Johnson first in this connection, it is because the sensations of pleasure at being once and forever rid of him are of a livelier description than the calm satisfaction which is experienced at the prospect of an honest, patriotic, and efficient administration of the Government for the next four years under his successor. Andrew Johnson will return to Tennessee, and may we never hear more of him until we are called upon to write his obituary.

President Grant takes his seat to-day in the Presidential chair under peculiarly favorable circumstances. The office of the Executive has been brought into contempt, and to him the people of the country look with confidence to raise it again to its proper dignity, and to make the White House something else than the headquarters of thieves and pardon-brokers. President Grant has never been in politics, and this is in many respects a signal advantage, as he is allied to no clique or faction; and as he has been elected in spite of rather than by the professional politicians, he can afford to go outside

of the ranks of the party leaders to find competent men to assist him in carrying on the Government. Hitherto he has proved himself equal to any emergency; the war which wrecked so many reputations raised him a head and shoulders above all his contemporaries; and as the darkest hour of our national existence to lead the armies of the Republic and crush the rebellion which threatened its life, so they now look to him to vanquish the corrupt horde who consider the National Treasury a legitimate object for plunder, to break up the rings which have been formed for the purpose of defrauding the Government, and to institute radical reforms, which the maladministration of affairs during the last four years have rendered necessary.

Of the magnitude of the task before him President Grant is well aware, and he has clearly indicated thus early that he does not intend to be ruled or influenced by the political jobbers who fancy that the people will not "pulse" except at their touch, and that the mere plea of party expediency will not induce him to swerve from his clear line of duty. The politicians like him now less than they ever did, but he commences his administration to-day with a firm hold upon the regards of every honest man in the nation than he had when he was elected to the highest office in the gift of the people last November, and with public opinion to sustain him, he will be the strongest President we have had since Washington.

There is so much to be done, and it is in the power of the President to do so much for the weal or woe of the country, that it is impossible at this time to do more than express our hearty satisfaction at the change in the executive branch of the Government which has taken place to-day at the capital. We breathe freer, now that we have a President in whom we have just cause to place confidence, and whom we honor and admire no less for his personal character than for his eminent services. If we praise the coming man and expect much from him, it is because he has shown himself to be worthy of praise and capable of performing all that he undertakes to do.

The melancholy examples we have had of Vice-Presidents who have been called to the Presidency, and who have betrayed their trust, make it a matter of the first importance that the second office under the Government should be filled in a proper manner. Vice-President Colfax, throughout his political career, has shown himself to be an able, energetic, and patriotic statesman. As Speaker of the House of Representatives he has presided with dignity and impartiality, and as President of the Senate he will doubtless prove equally efficient and popular. If by any dispensation of Providence he should be called upon to fill a higher position than the one he at present occupies, there is every reason to believe that he will prove himself eminently worthy of the trust that has been reposed in him.

By the election of Grant and Colfax last November, the people of the United States indicated their desire for a reform in the administration of the Government which would give us peace and prosperity at home and make us respected abroad, and the events of to-day are the happy prologues to the consummation of their desires.

## In Favor of Taxing All Species of Property.

It will be noticed by every one who reads the published reports of the proceedings of the State Legislature, that an enormous number of bills are annually introduced to exempt the property of such and such a corporation from all State taxation. An examination of the pamphlet laws, as published after the termination of every session, will yet more increase the public astonishment at the immense extent of the property in our midst which is exempted from any share of the burdens of the State. It is estimated that in the city of Philadelphia alone there is over \$40,000,000 worth of real estate which is a dead weight on the community. This includes all of the enormously rich churches and many exceedingly wealthy charitable institutions. We cannot but think that the whole plan of excluding a certain species of property from the payment of its just share of expenses towards the support of the community is an error. We know it may be said that it would be a grievous wrong to tax the house of God, and that it would be infamous to lay additional burdens on charities. This would be true if they were in need, or if absolute pecuniary embarrassment would result. But the additional expense would only serve as an additional incentive to contributors, and the most wealthy and most able to give would be induced to save the societies from the burden. As it is now, such churches as we have in Philadelphia are certainly quite competent to pay any fair rate of taxation for the protection accorded them. Cannot St. Mark's, Holy Trinity, and St. Clement's afford to pay their share to the State far better than the small property-owners who live under their shadows? It seems to us that it is the reverse of charity to thus exempt them, and make up the deficiency thus caused by laying the burden on the shoulders of the masses of the community. The fault is in the system. All property should be equally taxed, and the result would be that the corporations now excluded would suffer but the smallest inconvenience by paying their share. The tax on each would be but small, but in the aggregate it would tend to materially reduce the rate at which the remainder of the property of the Commonwealth has heretofore been assessed.

The United States District Attorneyship is a special feature from Washington informs us that J. P. O'Neill, Esq., was confirmed this morning at one o'clock by the Senate as

United States District Attorney for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. The Senate also appended the rules, so that their action might be sent to the President. The Senate during the session which has just expired refused to confirm the appointments of the late—happily late—President Johnson, preferring to let the offices remain vacant or be filled temporarily until after the inauguration of President Grant. Under these circumstances the confirmation of Mr. O'Neill is a personal compliment of the highest class, and it is a gratifying endorsement of his efficiency and ability as District Attorney. Mr. O'Neill made such an excellent officer during the time that he has held the District Attorneyship ad interim, that President Grant can well afford to allow him to remain where he is until he is sure that a better man is found for the position.

THE ENGLISH CIVIL SERVICE embraced, according to what are regarded as the most reliable estimates, 108,539 persons last year, classified as follows:—  
Heads of departments (political 38, non-political 159) 197  
Sub-heads of departments and heads of branches 1,882  
Clerks 14,696  
Inferior officers (indoor 245, outdoor 30,569, 39,023  
Temporary clerks and inferior officers 9,496  
Professional officers (superior 225, inferior 192) 4,184  
Artisans and laborers 30,438  
Women 30,438  
Persons permanently but not wholly employed 15,243  
The estimates for their salaries for the year 1868-69 reach £15,239,477, distributed as follows:—  
Public works and buildings £1,280,782  
Salaries and expenses of public officers 1,681,179  
Law and justice 2,581,086  
Police, police, and art 1,574,210  
Colonial, consular, and other foreign services 486,277  
Pensions and gratuities 4,825  
Miscellaneous, special, and secret objects 131,756  
Customs 1,074,433  
Land revenue 1,574,210  
Post Office (including packet service) 3,445,584

## SPECIAL NOTICES.

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or roughen the skin after using WHIGG'S ALCOHOLIC EUCALYPTI TABLET SOLIDIFIED CREAM. It is the best and most delicate soft and beautiful. It is delicately fragrant, transparent, and incomparable as a Toilet Soap. For sale by all Druggists. No. 624 CHESTNUT STREET, 24

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**CITY TREASURER'S OFFICE,**  
PHILADELPHIA, March 1, 1869.  
City Warrants registering to 12,000 paid on presentation. JOSEPH N. PEIRSON, City Treasurer.

**PRAY FOR ALL THAT ARE IN**  
AUGUST.—The August Fair will be held March 4, 1869, at No. 1310 CHESTNUT STREET, 12 o'clock, noon. PRICES: 1st PRIZE, \$100; 2nd PRIZE, \$50; 3rd PRIZE, \$25. BROAD and ARCH STREETS at 4 o'clock. P. M. PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, BROAD and GREEN STREETS, at 7 o'clock. P. M.

**THE PENNSYLVANIA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,**  
The Directors have this day declared a dividend of SEVEN DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS per share on the Stock of the Company for the last six months, which will be paid to the stockholders or their local representatives after the 11th instant. 32104 W. G. GROWELL, Secretary.

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**REAL ESTATE—THOMAS & SONS' Sale.**—Three-story brick dwelling, No. 1318 Beach street, above Hancock street. On Tuesday, March 2, 1869, at 12 o'clock, noon, will be sold at public sale at the Philadelphia Exchange, all that three-story brick message, with two-story back buildings and lot of ground, situated on the northwesterly side of Beach street, 110 feet 4 inches northeast of Hancock street, No. 1318, the lot containing in front on Beach street 25 feet, and extending in depth on the northeast line 91 feet 2 1/2 inches, and on the southwest line 95 feet 7 1/2 inches, more or less. The house contains ten rooms, has a gas furnace, bath, hot and cold water, cooking range, heater, etc. Clear of all incumbrance. Immediate possession. Keys at No. 1310 Beach street. THOMAS & SONS, Auctioneers, 341 1/2 Sts. Nos. 139 and 141 S. FOURTH STREET.

**TRUSIE'S SALE—THOMAS & SONS' Auctioneers.**—Modern three-story brick dwelling, No. 559 North Sixteenth street, below Green street. On Tuesday, March 2, 1869, at 12 o'clock, noon, will be sold at public sale, at the Philadelphia Exchange, all that modern three-story brick message, with three-story back buildings and lot of ground, situated on the west side of Sixteenth street, 160 feet 3 inches south of Green street, No. 559, the lot containing in front on Sixteenth street 15 feet, and extending in depth 88 feet 10 inches to a 3-foot wide alley leading into Brandywine street, with the free use and privilege of said alley. The house has the gas, bath, hot and cold water, cooking range, furnace, etc. Subject to a yearly ground-rent of \$20.

**REAL ESTATE—THOMAS & SONS' Auctioneers.**—Modern three-story brick dwelling, Emerald street, above Danphin street, 21st street ward. On Tuesday, March 2, 1869, at 12 o'clock, noon, will be sold at public sale, at the Philadelphia Exchange, all that modern three-story brick message and lot of ground, situated on the west side of Emerald street, 72 feet north of Danphin street, Nineteenth ward; containing in front on Emerald street 12 feet, and extending in depth 65 feet, with the privilege of a 3-foot wide alley. It has gas, bath, etc. Terms—\$1800 may remain on mortgage. Immediate possession.

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**ADMINISTRATOR'S SALE—THOMAS & SONS' Auctioneers.**—Three-story brick dwelling, No. 21 S. Twentieth street, below Market street. On Tuesday, March 16, 1869, at 12 o'clock, noon, will be sold at public sale, at the Philadelphia Exchange, all that three-story brick message and lot of ground, situated on the east side of Twentieth street, 217 feet 8 inches south of Market street, No. 21, the lot containing in front on Twentieth street 17 feet 8 inches, and extending in depth 79 feet. Has the gas introduced, etc. Subject to a yearly ground-rent of \$42.

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**REAL ESTATE—THOMAS & SONS' Auctioneers.**—Two-story frame Store and Dwelling, No. 611 South Third street, below 8th street. On Tuesday, March 2, 1869, at 12 o'clock, noon, will be sold at public sale, at the Philadelphia Exchange, all that two-story frame store and lot of ground, situated on the east side of Third street, below 8th street, No. 611, containing in front on Third street 17 feet, and extending in depth 100 feet. Subject to a yearly ground-rent of \$16.67.

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